

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 OIC-04 SR-02 ORM-03 SS-20

NSC-07 SP-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 AID-20 OMB-01 L-03

H-03 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 DRC-01 /207 W

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R 251520Z JUN 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6668

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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PASS LABOR DEPT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ILO, AORG

SUBJECT: ILO - VOTE ON CHILEAN RESOLUTION

REF: (A) AMBASSADOR-SECY. BUFFUM TELECON, (B) GENEVA 4004

1. SHORTLY BEFORE VOTE AFTERNOON JUNE 24 BECAME APPARENT TO USDEL THAT MOST LAS WERE LIKELY TO STICK BY EARLIER PLEDGES TO ABSTAIN AND THAT WEOS WERE HOPELESSLY SPLIT BETWEEN VOTES FOR AND ABSTENTIONS.

2. USDEL LEARNED FROM CHILEAN AMBASSADOR THAT GOC VIEWED WITH ALARM POSSIBILITY OF OVERWHELMING VOTE IN FAVOR OF RESOLUTION AND THAT SUCH A VOTE MIGHT LEAD GOC TO RECONSIDER ITS ACCEPTANCE OF ILO COMMISSION OF INQUIRY. HE ALSO SERIOUSLY CONCERNED THAT U.S. VOTE IN FAVOR WOULD AFFECT VOTE SOME LA DELEGATIONS. IN ANY CASE, HE INFORMED US THAT IF RES. IS ADOPTED CHILEAN GOVT DEL. WOULD LEAVE CONFERENCE.

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3. USDEL DECIDED THAT UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES DEVELOPING

AROUND CHILEAN VOTE, US INTERESTS WOULD BE BEST SERVED BY: 1) MAINTAINING HEMISPHERIC SOLIDARITY (CANADIAN GOVT. REPS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO ABSTAIN) AND, 2) AVOIDING ACTION WHICH COULD CONTRIBUTE TO JEOPARDIZING GOC ACCEPTANCE OF ILO COMMISSION OF INQUIRY.

ACCORDINGLY, JUST PRIOR TO VOTE US GOVT. REP MADE FOLLOWING STATMENT TO CONFERENCE:

"MR. PRESIDENT:

I SHOULD LIKE TO MAKE A BRIEF STATEMENT REGARDING THE POSITION OF THE US GOVERNMENT ON THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION BEFORE US. AS WE INDICATED IN THE COMMITTEE DISCUSSION OF THIS RESOLUTION, WE HAVE SERIOUS RESERVATIONS ABOUT MAKING PRONOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING VIOLATIONS WHICH ARE TO BE INVESTIGATED BY A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY AT SOME LATER DATE. IN OUR VIEW, THE ASSERTIVE LANGUAGE IN THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION UNNECESSARILY PREJUDGES THE SITUATION WHICH THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY IS SUPPOSED TO INVESTIGATE.

WE WISH TO GIVE MAXIMUM SUPPORT TO THE FACT-FINDING AND CONCILIATION COMMISSION, AND WE HAVE GRAVE MISGIVINGS THAT THIS RESOLUTION MAY HAMPER AND CREATE DIFFICULTIES FOR THE COMMISSION IN CARRYING OUT ITS TASK IN AN IMPARTIAL MANNER, - FREE FROM A SITUATION IN WHICH STATEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE WHICH COULD PREJUDICE AND MAKE THAT TASK MORE DIFFICULT.

THEREFORE, DESPITE THE POSITIVE ELEMENTS IN THE RESOLUTION, THE US GOVERNMENT DELEGATES REGRET THEY MUST ABSTAIN IN THE VOTING ON THIS RESOLUTION."

U.S. EMPLOYERS ABSTAINED. U.S. WORKERS VOTED FOR.

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4. FOLLOWING VOTE AMBASSADOR APPROACHED CHILEAN AMBASSADOR TO EMPHASIZE THAT USG DECISION TO ABSTAIN BASED LARGELY ON OUR DESIRE THAT COMMISSION OF INQUIRY SHOULD PROCEED, UNIMPEDED, WITH ITS WORK. WHEN CHILEAN AMBASSADOR WENT TO ROSTRUM FOR STATEMENT FOLLOWING VOTE HE REFRAINED FROM ANY SUGGESTION THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WISHED TO RECONSIDER ITS ACCEPTANCE OF COMMISSION OF INQUIRY. HE CONDEMNED THE RESOLUTION

AND ANNOUNCED THAT HIS DELEGATION WAS LEAVING THE
CONFERENCE. DALE

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